

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the Specification, as follows:

Please re-write the paragraph that spans page 1, lines 6-12, as follows:

This application ~~claims the benefit of~~ is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/695,499, filed October 23, 2000, entitled "A Network Storage System," and ~~to~~ claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Applications Serial Nos. 60/186,693 and 60/186,774, filed March 3, 2000, entitled "Method and Apparatus for Implementing A Network-Based Storage Service" and "Method and Apparatus for Establishing Control and Data Lines To A Storage Facility, And API For Supporting Such Lines," respectively.